



Goose Creek District Newsletter



June 2021

Volume 12, Issue 11

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Newsletter Key:

 Cub Scout Interest

 Boy Scout /
Venturing Interest

 For Everyone

 New Article
/Updated
Information



reprinted from BobWhite Blather, <https://bobwhiteblather.com/lets-just-have-some-fun/#more-5807>

Let's just have some fun!

Summer is approaching – something we may have lost track of, despite the change in weather, because our routines have been substantially altered over the last year. Pack and den meetings have taken on a completely different look from what we were used to. Many of the ways that Cub Scouts took part in activities that lead to advancement in rank have had to adapt to the changing circumstances of social distancing and meeting remotely.

The National Advancement Team of the Boy Scouts of America reminds us that even though our Cub Scouts roll up to their next rank in June, special provisions are in place for them to complete the ranks they are departing while they begin to enjoy activities of their next rank. If a Bear, for instance, hasn't completed all her requirements for a particular advancement item, she can still work on them over the summer in order to earn the Bear rank, while beginning to meet and take part in Webelos activities. In general, as long as the requirements are all met by the time school starts again, they can be awarded the rank they would ordinarily have earned the previous school year.

But this doesn't mean that dens and packs have to meet on the schedule that they've been meeting on. Most of the requirements can be done individually or in smaller groups, and as long as Akela gives their OK, the Scout should be good.

Besides, leaders and parents would like to take some time away from the routine, and they deserve a break from having to manage den and pack programs along with their kids' own activities outside of Scouting. Many children are enrolled in activities that only take place over the summer, families go on vacations, and if good fortune comes our way, we'll be catching up on those things we couldn't enjoy over the last year.

The three packs that I serve as a unit commissioner each have a different approach to summer programming. One has a rather ambitious program – fishing, bicycling, day camp, picnics, a pack campout – while another has just a couple things planned. The National Advancement Team reminds us that some of the best-run packs approach summer with the attitude of "let's just have some fun!". Although advancement can continue, they set aside time to just do fun things. Among their advice:

The pack gets together with no expectations other than spending time with their Cub Scout community. These packs hold barbeques in a local park, hit the beach, go for a bicycle ride or take a hike. They may visit a local museum, take in a local baseball game or spend the night at the zoo. The goal is to provide an opportunity for the families to get together, to see one another, to create some memories and enjoy themselves.

As a bonus, packs that offer an activity each month (June, July and August) can receive the National Summertime Pack Award. Cub Scouts who take part in an activity each of those months earn the shiny award pin. And for those rare dens that have an average of 50 percent or more of their Scouts take part each month, there's the National Summertime Den Award.

There is no set path for summertime fun. Each pack does what it finds is best for all their youth, and what the families would like to do. The Advancement Team reminds us that the reward doesn't have to be an advancement belt loop or a pin, but:

...the reward is seeing friends, being silly, just having a good time. Eating popcorn at a baseball game and seeing their faces on the jumbotron, or waking up in the lobby of the zoo to see the animals fed breakfast might just be the highlight experience that makes them want to continue their Scouting adventures in the Fall.

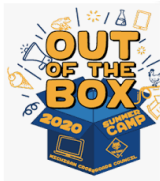
So, talk to your parents, make some plans, and get out there and have some fun!.

District News

District Website: www.NCACBSA.org/GooseCreek



Here Come Day and Twilight Camp!



We are all geared up, and headed for a fantastic year at Day and Twilight Camp...FINALLY! There is still time to sign up your camper for one of our wonderful camps. We are also on the lookout for older individuals who would like to earn some volunteer hours as Youth Staff and Adult Staff.

Contact Shannon or Stacey to find out more about registration, safety and Covid information, and anything else you would like to know about camp.

Dates: June 28-July 2 (Day Camp); June 28-July 1 (Twilight Camp)

NOTE: Registration closes on June 20.

Location: Loudoun County Fairgrounds, 17558 Dry Mill Rd, Leesburg, VA 2017

Camp Director: Shannon Klee

Email: goosecreekcubcamp@gmail.com

Cell: 317-833-3138

Program Director: Stacey Noll

Email: Stacey.noll@goosecreekdistrict.org

Cell: 717-385-3287



Webelos-o-ree 2021



The date for the Goose Creek's annual Webelos-o-ree is set for October 2-3, 2021 at Camp Snyder. This event is open to all Webelos so mark the date down on your calendar now. Note: Those that are currently Bears will be Webelos this fall and are eligible to attend.

This camping event is designed to show Webelos and their parents what a Scouts BSA troop is all about. The activities will be run by our own troops and can include such things as: Fire building, cooking, monkey bridge, BB shooting and/or archery, first aid, and knife safety. We provide dinner and in the evening there is a campfire run by the Order of the Arrow. For the adults we'll provide plenty of Scout leaders to answer questions about camping, joining a troop, and camping equipment. We will also hold a Webelos to Scout orientation for Arrow of Light Scouts.

The Webelos-o-ree starts off with an opening ceremony Saturday morning and wraps up Sunday after chapel services. For those who don't want to camp over, there are also registration options for staying just for the activity periods and for joining us for dinner and the campfire before going home.

The newsletter staff is taking the month of July off, the next district newsletter will be August 2021.



Troop Participation in the Webelos-o-ree



At the Webelos-o-ree each troop selects an activity/skill that their Scouts teach the Webelos and their parents during a morning and afternoon session. And the cost? Nothing! There is no registration fee for Boy Scouts, even if they camp. The only thing required is a service project to help keep the event running (starting cooking fires, cleanup, food prep, etc.).

If your troop is interested in participating in this year's Webelos-o-ree, even if you were at last year's, please contact Charles Thornton (ScouterChalis@gmail.com) so we can coordinate the activities to be run. We have space for seven troops to camp over and, as always, there is no fee for troops to attend. They just have to supply their own food.

For the past few years we have tried to keep certain activities reserved for the troops that have done them in the past, this has often had us scrambling to fill them in when we finally heard that a troop doing one could not come that year. **This year all activity slots are open and will be given to the first troop that requests them.**

News from the District Membership Team



The membership team has some exciting news to share with all of you. We have set up a Membership Hub with the intention of making it a one stop shop for all things Membership.

We have also established (this is the best part if you ask me) an automated process for applications that will allow you to track where they are in the process. While this is the preferred method for submission and transfers between units, we understand there are issues and not all units want to accept online applications.

All applications will need to be submitted using this form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1LCXHJlwnY59C7SrZIPR0yC502I_-e1SVpCGjox-ol3w/edit?usp=sharing

This will alert membership that there is an application that needs to be reviewed. Once reviewed, with the click of a button, it's sent to our District professional, who will review and submit to the registration team at Council. Once that step is complete, it is pushed back to the volunteer membership team and we do not mark it "complete" until it is verified against your unit roster. The best part is you will be able to track the application(s).

Over the weekend multiple units received emails from us indicating that their applications have been submitted as we dug through and attempted to verify every application that was received this year. If you are missing any scouts off your official my.scouting.org roster, please resubmit them using this [link](#) to the form.

Visit our Membership Hub:

<https://sites.google.com/goosecreekdistrict.org/membership/home?authuser=2>

Submit your applications here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdGYDFSmJ8y510NXMA7gQThiqVMgWH83RAV8uA-Y281kX1BGw/viewform>



Oatlands Service Projects



Oatlands has many opportunities for Scouts for service projects and they hope to establish a partnership with scouting groups to help them learn about the historic property in their backyard. There are hiking trails on the property also that could assist with some of the scouting requirements for rank advancement.

Oatlands Historic House & Gardens is a site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation and a National Historic Site. Oatlands, Inc. is a self-supporting non-profit organization which receives no government or Trust funding. Oatlands is a rich resource for our community, providing historical, educational, and recreational experiences to our many visitors. Volunteerism is an important part of what keeps Oatlands looking its best for our daily visitors. If interested in any of the below projects, please contact info@oatlands.org

- Building picnic tables (Eagle)
- Fixing the gazebo at Oatlands Hamlet. (Eagle)
- Clearing brush/fallen debris from the end of Little Oatlands Lane (between 40150 and 40140).
- Clearing vines and fallen debris along the fence line from Gap Road to the entrance of Oatlands Plantation Lane.
- Clearing vines and fallen debris from the main entrance to the creek at the border of the south field.
- Clearing weeds and foliage away from the garage at Oatlands Hamlet.
- Clearing out the old sheep shed at Oatlands Hamlet.
- Clearing and seeding Oatlands' side of Little Oatlands Lane for the length of the strawberry field..

“Onward and Upward”

On the Advancement Trail



New Eagles



Congratulations to Goose Creek's newest Eagles:

Timothy Bowser – Troop 1910

Grant Boysen – Troop 982

Forrest Bradley – Troop 39

William Murphy – Troop 1910



Eagle Scout Graduation Cords



Eagle Scout Graduation Cords are something that are worn on graduation day and at other commemorative events for high school seniors to show recognition to young women and men who have worked hard for years to earn their Eagle Scout rank in the Boy Scouts of America. If you have an Eagle Scout who will be graduating soon, stop by the National Capital Scout Shop or Northern Virginia Scout Shop to pick one up.

They can also be ordered online at the [ScoutShop](http://ScoutShop.com). Cost is \$9.99.



Life-to-Eagle Seminar



Keep your eyes open for an email announcement of our 2021 offerings of the Life-to-Eagle (L2E) Training for Goose Creek. [At this time, the LC Public Library meeting rooms are still closed, but as soon as they open, we'll schedule the first opportunity available. See also the caveat at the bottom of the article.]

These training conferences are primarily targeted for the Life-to-Eagle Advisers & Coordinators at the unit level – but are by no means limited to same. Life Scouts and their parents are strongly encouraged to attend as well. The key goal is to get each of the unit Eagle Advisers up to speed on changes to the process, and some of the district-level mechanics of same. That way, they can help share the message to the Life Scouts in their units on a more frequent basis.

The first L2E Seminar for 2021 was anticipated to be in July, but with meeting rooms still closed, I'm targeting August. (As noted previously during the pandemic, this training is too lengthy to attempt virtually). Tentative hope remains for a L2E Seminar on ...

Date: Aug 14 or 21, 2020 (pending libraries opening mtg rms)

Time: TBD (usually a late morning start)

Place: TBD – Typically one of the Loudoun's public libraries

The next newsletter (issued Aug 1) should include an update on the availabilities of the when this seminar will be held. The last (regular) offering for this year would then typically be in November.

Also, if you ARE a Life-to-Eagle Adviser or Advancement Chair for your Unit, and have not attended one of these in Goose Creek within the last 2 years, you really should make an attempt to do so. Lots of things have changed over the years, and even the long-standing and experienced L2E Advisers will learn something new.

Special 2021 caveat ... If your unit wishes a personal L2E training (from 3.5 - 4 hrs) and can provide adequate space for same (perhaps in their meeting place) all I ask is for an assurance of at least 5-10 attendees. Let me (Brad Scales) know at ... MSVA_Tenor@yahoo.com.





Positions of Responsibility: Guide to Advancement



But did you know units cannot require specific positions for a rank? For example, a troop cannot require a Scout to be the senior patrol leader to become an Eagle Scout. Or that positions of responsibility in a provisional jamboree troop or Philmont crew do not count?

Also remember that for Star and Life ranks, a unit leader may assign the leadership of a project that helps the unit as a substitute for the position of responsibility.

4.2.3.4.2 Meeting the Time Test May Involve Any Number of Positions

The requirements call for a period of months and not a specific position. So, a Scout may hold several positions if total service time equals at least the number of months required for the rank.

4.2.3.4.3 Meeting Unit Expectations

A unit should set expectations of the Scout for positions of responsibility, and if, within reason (see the note under “Rank Requirements Overview,” 4.2.3.0), based on the Scout’s personal skill set, these expectations have been met, the Scout has fulfilled the requirement.

In a note that has become a big point of discussion over the last year, the Guide to Advancement says “Regardless of a unit’s expectations or policy, if a unit takes time off, such as during the summer months, it must count that time toward service in a position of responsibility. (See ‘Active Participation,’ 4.2.3.1.)”

When setting or considering expectations, see also

<https://www.scouting.org/coronavirus/covid-19-faq/#advancement> .

4.2.3.4.4 Meeting the Requirement in the Absence of Unit Expectations

A unit should set expectations, but what if it does not? In the absence of clear expectations, a Scout is left on his/her own judgement as to what a good job may entail. If expectations were not communicated to the Scout, then the unit cannot come back and say you didn’t do what we wanted.”

4.2.3.4.5 When Responsibilities Are Not Met

If a Scout is not meeting the clear expectations laid out for the position of responsibility this must be communicated to the Scout as early as noted, which can be a wonderful opportunity for counseling and learning. It is unfair and inappropriate – and too late – to wait until the end of the time period to have this discussion.

4.2.3.4.6 “Responsibility” and “Leadership”

Many suggest these requirements should call for a position of leadership rather than of responsibility. As the GTA says, “Taking and accepting responsibility, however, is a key foundation for leadership. One cannot lead effectively without it.”

Take another look at “4.2.3.4 Positions of Responsibility” in the Guide to Advancement for more detail.



Nineteen Cub Scout Elective Adventures will be Retired Next Year



If your Bear Cub Scout earned the World of Sound elective adventure, he or she was one of the few who did. Nineteen elective adventures (listed below) have been some of the least popular with some being earned by fewer than 3% of Cub Scouts.

Elective adventures are reviewed for content and popularity. These 19 were the least popular based on sales and advancement data. They will be archived in Scoutbook and Internet Advancement, removing the ability to mark them as completed after the retirement date of May 31, 2022.

Cub Scouts can still earn these electives through next May. Most packs transition to the next rank in June, but your den or pack might already have plans for the next program year. So, this next program year from fall 2021 through spring 2022 will be the last time to work on these adventures. However, inventory for loops and pins is limited and will only be available while supplies last.

Cub Scouts can still wear the adventure loops and pins after that date. Once it's earned, it's not taken away from the Cub Scout.

Tiger

- Family Stories
- Earning Your Stripes
- Tiger Tales
- Tiger Theater

Wolf

- Collections and Hobbies
- Grow Something
- Hometown Heroes
- Motor Away

Bear

- Beat of the Drum
- World of Sound
- Make It Move
- Robotics

Webelos/Arrow of Light

- Looking Back Looking Forward
- Maestro
- Project Family
- Build My Hero
- Adventures in Science
- Fix It
- Movie Making



You might have been a Scouter too long when:

- You say "signs up" in a business meeting to quiet everyone down.
- You really love your self-inflating sleep pad.
- You took a chemistry course at the local college to help you develop a better fire starter.

★ The Data Is In: The Protect Yourself Rules Cub Scout Adventure Is Working

The Protect Yourself Rules



It's been nearly two years since the BSA debuted Preview Adventures, elective Adventures for Cub Scouts that count toward advancement just like other Adventures, but haven't yet made their way into the printed handbooks.

During the preview period, these Adventures remain under evaluation — and up for possible revision, depending on response from Cub Scouts and leaders alike.

As Youth Protection Month comes to a close, it's a good time to review the data we've collected so far from one of the original Preview Adventures, Protect Yourself Rules. To sum it up as succinctly and efficiently as possible: It works.

Developed in coordination with the Barbara Sinatra Children's Center Foundation, the Protect Yourself Rules Preview Adventure is designed to provide Cub Scouts information on how to recognize, respond and report abuse. It's available for Cub Scouts from Lion through Arrow of Light.

You can do this Adventure as a den or pack activity, or at home as a family. Once you have completed the Adventure, you are invited to complete a survey to let us know how it went.

What the Data Shows

With more than 2,000 responses to date, nearly 93% of the parents said the Adventure helped them have a conversation with their child about protecting themselves. Nearly 92% of them said their child enjoyed the videos included in this Adventure.

The survey also asks parents if their child disclosed at least one uncomfortable situation to them as a result of this Adventure. This is significant: It's the first time any major youth-serving organization has sought data to accurately measure the impact a safety awareness program can have on the actual reporting of unsafe situations. The BSA is truly leading the way in this area.

For more information go to this [Bryan On Scouting article](#).

Council / National News

Council Website: www.NCACBSA.org

Camp Snyder is Open for Small Group Camping



Only one patrol sized group per campsite, 12-13 attendees, and no more than 25 members per scout unit can camp at Camp Snyder on a specific weekend. This is in compliance with Executive Order 72 for the State of VA. The goal is that the small group method help to mitigate COVID-19 virus transmission. There will be no formal activities provided during your stay but there is plenty to do at the camp on your own.

For more information and to register for a weekend go to <https://scoutingevent.com/082-42563>



Sea Base High Adventure Opportunity



NCAC's High Adventure Committee has three remaining openings on its 2021 Sea Base - Coral Reef Sailing adventure! Five crew members are in place; we need at least one but up to three participants (one can be an adult) for this ship to sail. Please join them!

The Adventure: You'll be underway for a week on a 40+ foot long sailing vessel, snorkeling the beautiful reefs in the Florida Keys and Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. You'll also study astronomy, navigation, fish identification and coral reef ecology. This is a six-night, seven-day adventure.

The Crew: This Sea Base crew has a minimum of six and a maximum of eight participants. Sea Scout Ship 2 is on board with two adults and three scouts. One to three more crew members are needed. This can be you!

Dates: Friday, August 13th to Thursday, August 19th, 2021

Cost: is estimated at \$1,950 per participant, all inclusive (Sea Base fee, roundtrip airfare, ground transportation on a chartered bus, meals and even an alligator farm tour!).

Payment plan: initial \$700 deposit, incremental \$700 payment, estimated \$550 final payment (will be reduced if costs are less).

Online Registration & Payment: Please go here to register and pay online: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-37277> Payments are by credit card or e-check (3% surcharge on credit/debit card payments; e-checks are free).

NOTE: This trip is available on a first-come, first-served basis. To reserve your spot on this Adventure, complete the online registration and pay the \$700 deposit.

An Orientation Session: will be held in June. Attendance by the entire crew is expected.

Direct questions to John Blackwell, 301-346-0551 (cell),
john.blackwell@goosecreekdistrict.org

Summer of Service



Join Scouting families across the country in a spirited Summer of Service! As we have throughout our history, Scouting families are answering the call to work together in service of the greater good. From public health drives, to caring for the environment, to assisting neighbors in need, Scouts have always been a force for positivity and goodness in our communities. Now more than ever, our world needs that Scouting spirit once again. Let's step up! Together, we can answer the call to make a positive impact in our neighborhoods and communities. Join us today, with projects big or small, in a Summer of Service!

To find out more go to: [Summer of Service](#)



Opportunity to Share Thoughts on Future BSA National Jamborees

Take this [survey and/or participate in a focus group](#) to provide input on future National Jamborees



Join National Capital Area Council on Day of Giving

JUNE 10, 2020

**NCAC
Day Of
Giving**

The National Capital Area Council (NCAC) asks everyone to help kick off our #SummerofService on NCAC Day of Giving —Thursday, June 10.

National Capital Area Council is in the business of making our communities stronger by serving more than 36,000 families and helping instill in our young people the values of the Scout Oath and the Scout Law. As a non-profit organization, we rely on the generosity of our donors to ensure we can deliver on our promise to make the DC Metro region a better place. That is why we are kicking off NCAC's Summer of Service with a Giving Day on June 10th.

"On NCAC Day of Giving, we hope to ignite a spark that will encourage people to give more, whether it be their time or resources, to help make a profound effect on the youth in the DC metro area." said Craig Poland, Scout Executive of NCAC. "By contributing to Scouting, more youth will experience a program that will further instill values and character in their moral fiber."

For over 100 years, Scouting families have answered the call to work together in service of the greater good. From public health drives to caring for the environment to assisting neighbors in need. Scouts have always been a force for positivity and goodness in our communities. It is what we do. It is part of our DNA. We serve others. Now more than ever, our world needs that Scouting spirit once again.

As part of Summer of Service, a national effort, we're also asking Scouting families to give back to their communities this summer through acts of service. Scouts will serve in a variety of ways as defined by the individual. The spectrum will range from large city-wide projects to small random acts of kindness. Although any type of service is applicable, there will be 4 key areas of focus: The Environment, Health & Wellness, Our Communities, and Neighbors In-Need.

To learn more about NCAC Day of Giving and our Summer of Service, visit www.ncacbsa.org/SummerGiving5.



Alpha Phi Omega, a Great Way for College-Age BSA Alumni To Stay Connected



With more clubs, student organizations and intramural sports than there are hours in the week, college offers more than enough opportunities for young people to stay involved.

But college-bound Scouting alumni who wish to continue serving others in meaningful, rewarding ways will want to save room on their Google calendars for Alpha Phi Omega, the national service fraternity found at hundreds of colleges nationwide.

Alpha Phi Omega, or APO, was founded by Scouts for Scouts — transporting the Scouting commitment to service into college, where service projects are a great way to give back, make friends and strengthen résumés.

Membership in Scouting was dropped as an APO requirement in 1967, and women were invited to join in 1970. While APO is no longer officially associated with the BSA, the two are still considered "partners in service."

APO is a service fraternity (rather than social, academic or professional), meaning young people can be APO members while still joining other Greek life organizations.



Here are Some Ideas for Summer of Service Projects



Scouts help other people at all times, and after a year of staying home because of the COVID-19 pandemic, many of them are excited to start serving their communities like they did pre-pandemic.

If your Scout has read this month's issue of Scout Life magazine, he or she would've seen senior editor Aaron Derr's story on BSA's Summer of Service campaign. It's pretty simple to be part of it. Do a project or Good Turn and let the BSA know. That's all there is to it.

It's a time to remind our country of the good Scouts do on a daily basis. We all can participate in service, whether it's completing an extensive Eagle Scout project or an impromptu helping of a neighbor with yard work. Make sure projects adhere to BSA standards and guidelines, along with COVID-19 guidelines for your area.

The campaign runs through October. Share your Scout's or unit's service here and on social media by using the hashtag #SummerOfService.

Some ideas

If you follow BSA guidelines, any service project can qualify to be part of Summer of Service. It must benefit others, rather than Scouting. But a Scouting event can spur service ideas, like cleaning up a park during a campout.

If you need help brainstorming ideas, here are a few:

- Repair bicycles and teach bike safety to neighborhood children
- Wearing appropriate gear, disinfect playground equipment in your neighborhood park
- Make and donate face coverings to schools and churches in your area
- Take a trash bag and gloves with you on your next run or family walk and pick up any trash you see
- Beautify the school grounds or community public areas
- Commit to using fewer plastic bags
- Perform an energy audit of your home
- Set up a recycling system where there isn't one
- Do a chore for someone who cannot easily do it themselves: mow a lawn, rake leaves, fix a mailbox, etc.
- Following COVID guidelines in your area, check in on an elderly neighbor
- Collect school supplies and backpacks and donate them to your local school
- Collect supplies to donate to domestic violence shelters in your area
- Donate a portion of your weekly allowance to a homeless shelter
- Foster a shelter animal or offer dog walking services
- Return carts for people at the store for an afternoon during a rainy day
- Write "thank you" notes to men & women in the military, first responders, healthcare workers
- Take treats to a local fire station
- Assist a community library with their annual book drive



Open-Toe Shoes Vs. Closed-Toe Shoes at Scouting Events



Closed-toe shoes are the footwear of choice for campouts, summer camp and all other Scouting excursions. This goes way beyond comfort or fashion choices and into the realm of health and safety.

Put simply, “closed-toe shoes protect your feet from weather conditions and environmental stressors,” says Tracie Turner, the BSA’s environmental, health and safety specialist.

There’s no formal policy, and no “BSA shoe police” on alert for exposed toes. But as volunteers, we should remind our Scouts to wear the right gear — from head to toe — for the activities they’re about to enjoy.

Also, we should note that some council camps do prohibit open-toe shoes, so be sure to check the official packing list before sliding those sandals into your Scout’s duffel.

The dangers of open-toe shoes

Turner admits that open-toe shoes have their appeal — in certain settings.

“They are breathable, reduce blisters, are easier to take off and on, and you can wear them around water,” Turner says. “But the drawback is the lack of protection they provide.”

Turner, who reviews reports about injuries in Scouting, says that the vast majority of these incidents involve slips, trips and falls.

“Having suitable closed-toe footwear to protect your feet is a preventive measure that works,” Turner says.

Think about the terrain you’ll encounter, and closed-toe shoes make even more sense.

“Children today have less experience navigating in the outdoors, and the landscapes at many camps will be novel for many campers,” the American Camp Association writes. “Does your camp have steep, uneven or slippery terrain? Closed-toed shoes are often the best choice.”

What the handbook says

Flip to page 245 of the latest edition of the Scouts BSA Handbook for more guidance about footwear.

“Taking care of your feet begins with choosing your footwear,” the section begins.

The page covers both long and short hikes, but pay particular attention to the box about camp shoes.

Many hikers like to switch out of their heavy hiking boots and into some lightweight, breathable camp shoes. Even here, closed-toe is the best bet.

“Choose closed-toe shoes that will help protect you from injury,” the Handbook suggests. “A pair of running shoes might be just right.”

★ 15 Hidden Gems in the 'Scouts BSA Handbook' That Will Interest Adult Volunteers



The Scouts BSA Handbook isn't just for young people enjoying confidence-boosting experiences along the Scouting trail.

Like a Pixar movie with jokes meant for those of us born before the 21st century, the Handbook contains plenty of useful features that adults will appreciate. You just have to know where to look.

Today we're sharing 15 hidden gems we found in the Scouts BSA Handbook. While these sections, charts and guides were written for Scouts, they contain information or insight that will help Scouters become better parents, spouses and volunteers.

Have you read all 488 pages of the Scouts BSA Handbook? Then you've seen everything on the list below, and "hidden gems" might be overselling it. In that case, you might consider sharing this list with newer families in your troop — introducing them to some valuable resources hiding in plain sight.

Note: The page numbers are correct whether you have the Scouts BSA Handbook for Boys or the Scouts BSA Handbook for Girls.

1. A patch-sewing guide for dads and moms (pages 22–23)
2. A four-step plan for teaching anyone anything (page 38)
3. Everything you need to know about the American flag (pages 58–62)
4. A guide to reading nutrition labels (pages 82–86)
5. A fun list of brain-boosting exercises (page 99)
6. The ingredients for a home first-aid kit (page 109)
7. A guide to identifying venomous snakes (page 130)
8. A urine color chart (page 138)
9. A guide to identifying animal tracks (page 210)
10. A list of 'weather lore' sayings (page 217)
11. A camping gear checklist (pages 268–269)
12. A 'size of servings' chart (page 295)
13. A guide to finding your way using the sun, stars or moon (pages 354–357)
14. The best knot-tying guide anywhere (pages 363–378)
15. A STEM index (page 475)

Michael's Woodshop



Here is a link to [Michael's Woodshop News, Summer 2021](#) which was just posted to the Camp Snyder website. We have several exciting new offerings this spring, including our "Baloo the Builder Workshop" which we expect to become one of our most popular activities. In addition, please see the upcoming Paddle making class being offered by the Aquatics Committee. This is a unique opportunity to learn how to make canoe paddles from an expert. Please act quickly, space is limited.



Cub Chat Live



Watch [Cub Chat Live](#) every Friday at 3pm EST on Facebook Live for tips, tricks and ideas to help your den or pack

Training Opportunities



Scouts Can Earn College Credit for Attending National Leadership Course



National Youth Leadership Training educates Scouts, Venturers and Sea Scouts on how to be effective leaders; NYLT Leadership Academy teaches them how to be effective teachers.

For the first time, those who attend the academy not only will learn how to teach NYLT courses in their home councils, but they can also get college credit for it.

NYLT Leadership Academy has partnered with West Virginia University to offer the one-credit course entitled, "ORGL293A: Youth Leadership Experience." The course, available to high school students, covers leadership techniques and practices. Most of the work in the course will be completed through the NYLT Leadership Academy program. There will be additional required reading and work before and after the course. The college credit can be transferred to any higher education institution across the country.

For more information check out this [Bryan on Scouting article](#).



Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills (IOLS) & Basic Adult Leader Outdoor Orientation (BALOO)



WHO: Cub Scouters, WEBELOS Leaders, Arrow of Light Leaders, Scoutmasters, Assistant Scoutmasters, Crew Advisors, Associate Crew Advisors who need to complete their program-specific training requirements, as well as those other adult volunteers who want to help with the outdoor program activities and basic advancement skills.

WHAT: Instruction designed to hone outdoor skills will use the Den and Patrol methods. It will focus on safety & risk, unit structure, event planning, camping, Scout craft skills, Outdoor Ethics, and outdoor cooking. Partially fulfills the training requirements for Cub Scouters, WEBELOS Leaders, Arrow of Light Leaders, Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster, Venture Crew Advisor, and Assistant Venture Crew Advisor positions..

WHEN: Weekend Session starts at 11:00 am, Saturday, June 19, and runs through 3:00 pm, Sunday, June 20 at Camp Snyder

COURSE FEE: The fee for the course registration is \$30.00

Note: There will be no separate classroom session; only the overnight session at Camp Snyder. Also there are some prerequisites for the IOLS and BALOO courses

Registration and Additional Information: <https://scoutingevent.com/082-47930>

★ National Youth Leadership Training Updated to Better Serve Youth Leaders



National Youth Leadership Training (NYLT) is a six-day, council-offered course that teaches Scouts, Venturers and Sea Scouts what they must know and do to be effective leaders in their units.

Youth, ages 13-20, benefit from the exciting program; it integrates modern leadership theory with the traditional strengths of Scouting. This isn't a classroom training. Scouts experience hands-on activities, games, challenges, presentations and discussions. It's a combination of work and play that resonates with youth.

Though the training, which launched in 2005, was due for an update.

What will be new and why?

In 2019, a team of volunteer Scouters, all with NYLT experience, began reviewing the course along with a national survey. Their goal was to refresh the course, not overhaul it. Here are some of the aspects that were updated:

- Created consistency with the schedule.
- Content sessions went from 15 to 19 with new sessions on "Embracing and Leading Change" and "Resilience."
- Two communication sessions were split into six 30-minute sessions.
- Other sessions were merged and activities were added with a focus on active learning.
- Team-building games, patrol challenges and a problem-solving panel were added.

When will the updated course be available?

A national pilot course was held in February and regional pilot courses will be held throughout the spring and summer. If you live in or near one of the following councils, check their respective websites for details, and registration information

[***Narragansett Council***](#)

[***Connecticut Yankee Council***](#)

[***Great St. Louis Area Council***](#)

[***Glacier's Edge Council***](#)

[***Great Southwest Council***](#)

[***Western Los Angeles County Council***](#)

[***North Florida Council***](#)

[***Atlanta Area Council***](#)

After these courses, feedback will be evaluated and final adjustments will be made this fall for the NYLT Course Director Conferences. Councils should be able to implement the updated course in 2022.

★ Registration Now Open for National Wood Badge Course at The Summit



At first, it sounds like a reality TV pitch: What happens when you bring together 64 strangers from across the country and challenge them to spend five days living, learning and working together?

But the reality behind the National Wood Badge Course, planned for January 2022 at the Summit Bechtel Reserve, is better than anything seen on TV.

This reality has the potential to change your life forever.

That's not slick marketing copy. That's the message we're hearing from participants and staffers who attended this course the last time it was held, in 2020. Kaleen Deatherage of Portland, Ore., was there as a troop guide for the Antelope Patrol.

"The energy and enthusiasm from participants and staff alike resulted in powerful sharing, learning and collaboration that will make each one of us better Scouters," she says. "My hope is that we all brought that energy and some new skills home — and now we are better prepared to deliver Scouting programs to our youth."

That course in 2020 was so popular that it required a wait list, but there's no waiting necessary if you're ready to accept the challenge of Wood Badge early next year.

Registration is now open for the next National Model Linked Troop Wood Badge Course, set for Jan. 17–21, 2022, at the Summit in West Virginia. It's a chance to learn the latest leadership techniques, form connections with fellow Scouters from other parts of the country, and enjoy hands-on experiences sure to make you a better Scout leader, spouse, boss, employee, parent and person.

The course is open to any registered member of the BSA age 18 or older who has completed the basic training courses for their Scouting position.

Participants and staff not only benefit from meeting people from across the country and around the world, but those in the female troop will be inspired from seeing so many female leaders in one room.

The course uses the new Wood Badge syllabus first introduced in 2017 and piloted in 2018. All courses held in 2020 and beyond use the new syllabus. The course is also a model course because it uses the "linked troop" model introduced as an option for Scouts BSA units.

The course is actually two courses run concurrently, with a combination of separate and joint learning sessions of all-female and all-male troops. Each troop will have six patrols and no more than 32 members.

For more information go to this [Bryan on Scouting article](#).

Wood Badge



Wood Badge is the Boy Scouts of America's ultimate leadership training designed to meet the advanced leadership needs of Scouters in all aspects of the BSA, whether unit, district, or council level – from assistant den leaders to Scoutmasters, from Cubmasters to Venturing Advisors, from committee members to commissioners. It is a fun, energetic, and inspiring course guaranteed to infuse your unit with fun and meaning – all designed to fulfill the mission of the BSA, and ensure our youth is getting everything they are promised from the program.

Reflecting the best of nearly a century of Scouting experience, Wood Badge draws upon the most current leadership models used by corporate America, academic circles, and successful organizations throughout the country. Participants can expect to develop skills in many areas, including leadership theory, team building, problem-solving, communication, project planning and more. These skills can be taken back to packs, troops, crews, and ships to help leaders guide youth in dynamic Scouting programs. Scouters will find these skills invaluable in their business and personal lives as well.

Wood Badge consists of two parts:

- The first five full days is the initial group training, usually held over two weekends – the first weekend Friday through Sunday, and the second Saturday and Sunday.
- The second part requires participants to apply the skills they learned by completing a 5-part plan (called a “ticket”) over the following 18 months, leading towards the individual participant's vision of a better Scouting future.

Requirements for attending Wood Badge:

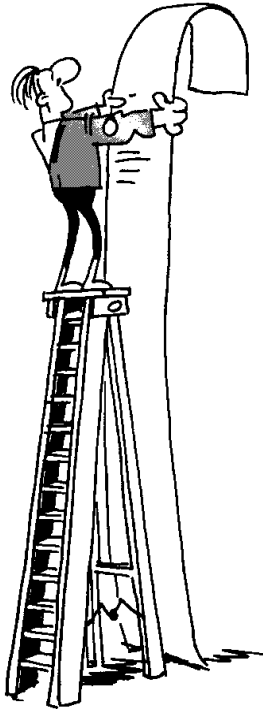
1. Be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America and age 18 or older.
2. Have completed the basic position-specific training courses for their Scouting role.
3. Be capable of functioning safely in an outdoor environment. All participants are required to complete the Annual Health and Medical Record. Parts A, B, and C are required which includes a physical. Part C is required for everyone, including people who are not present for more than 72 hours.

A minimum (non-refundable) deposit is due with registration, and then full payment is due 45 days before the start of the course. Each Wood Badge course is limited to 48 participants. Per national guidelines, any course not having 30 fully paid participants 30 days prior to the start of the course is subject to cancellation.

QUESTIONS?

For information about specific courses, contact the Course Director listed on the [registration page](#).

District Calendar



June 2021

9 Roundtable
 9 OA Chapter Meeting
 10 Commissioner Mtg
 24 District Committee
 28 **Day Camp Starts**

July 2021

4 Fourth of July

August 2021

11 Roundtable
 11 OA Chapter Meeting
 12 Commissioner Mtg
 26 District Committee

September 2021

6 Labor Day
 8 Roundtable
 8 OA Chapter Meeting
 9 Commissioner Mtg
 23 District Committee

October 2021

2-3 **Webelos-o-ree**
 11 Columbus Day
 13 Roundtable
 13 OA Chapter Meeting
 14 Commissioner Mtg
 28 District Committee

November 2021

10 Roundtable
 10 OA Chapter Meeting
 11 Commissioner Mtg
 18 District Committee &
**Annual District
 Business Meeting**
 30 **Final Date for
 Recharter Turn In**

December 2021

8 Roundtable
 8 OA Chapter Meeting
 9 Commissioner Mtg
 16 District Committee

January 2022

12 Roundtable
 12 OA Chapter Meeting
 13 Commissioner Mtg
 17 MLK Jr. Day
 27 District Committee

February 2022

4 Scout Jumuah
 5 Scout Sabbath
 6 Scout Sunday
 9 Roundtable
 9 OA Chapter Meeting
 10 Commissioner Mtg
 21 President's Day
 24 District Committee

March 2022

5 **District Pinewood
 Derby**
 9 Roundtable
 9 OA Chapter Meeting
 10 Commissioner Mtg
 24 District Committee
 25-27 **Spring Camporee**

April 2022

13 Roundtable
 13 OA Chapter Meeting
 14 Commissioner Mtg
 27 District Committee

May 2022

11 **Program Launch**
 11 OA Chapter Meeting
 12 Commissioner Mtg
 26 District Committee
 30 Memorial Day